Leadership | Effectiveness | Accountability | Professionalism





LEAP Africa is a youth-focused leadership development organisation committed to raising leaders that will transform Africa; through interventions for young people that bridges the gap in leadership, education, employability and entrepreneurship. We recognise that youth leadership and inclusion are critical to nation-building and wealth creation.

In LEAP Africa, we are committed to our mission of raising leaders and empowering youth agencies across the continent to transform Africa into the Africa of our dreams. Our cutting-edge programmatic thrusts inspire and equip young people, changing their mindset to lead ethically and motivating them to deliver positive change in their communities. We also support social entrepreneurs in building systems and structures crucial for business sustainability, contributing to livelihoods and social and national development.

As a foremost youth-focused non-profit in Nigeria, we focus on two big pillars; making secondary education

work for young people and raising talents to actualise the Sustainable Development Goals (S.D.G.s). LEAP Africa actively contributes to the body of knowledge, leveraging our strategic direction of ecosystem building, thought leadership and advocacy. Our extensive research forms the basis for our books, articles, research papers and reports.

With millions of direct and indirect beneficiaries, footprints across Nigeria and 34 African countries, and 11 published books, which are action-oriented guides to creating positive change in individuals, organisations and communities.

Our Vision

To be recognised as the premier resource centre for developing dynamic, innovative and principled leaders who will drive Africa's realisation of its full potential.

Our Mission

To inspire, empower and equip a new cadre of African leaders by providing the skills and tools for personal, organisational, and community transformation.

Our Values



RESPECT

We respect the diversity of our society, remain committed to creating inclusive opportunities and work at the highest level of professionalism in all our interactions with different stakeholders.



INTEGRITY

We consistently demonstrate transparency and truthfulness in all our dealings.



SYNERGY

We build communities and ecosystems for our beneficiaries through strategic partnerships.



EXCELLENCE

We are result-oriented and innovative and go the extra mile to deliver the highest standards in our programmes and activities.

Our **Board Members**

Mr Udeme Ufot (M.F.R.)

Board Chair, LEAP Africa; Co-founder & Group Managing Director, SO&U.

Dr Joe Abah

Country Director, DAI

Mr Tola Adeyemi

Partner and Head of Audit Services, KPMG Professional Services

Mr Waziri Ado

Former Executive Secretary, NEITI

Mr Larry Ettah

Executive Chairman, Barracuda Capital Partners Limited

Mrs Amal Hassan

C.E.O., Outsource Global.

Mr Abass Idaresit

CEO, Wild Fusion

Ms Rabi Isma

Former Director, Leadership and Organisational Development, 9mobile.

Mr Simon Kolawole

Founder/C.E.O. Cable Newspaper Ltd.

Mr Chike Maduegbuna

C.E.O., Afrinolly Limited.

Mr David Lanre Messan

President, LEAP Africa Alumni Network (L.A.A.N.).

Ms Micheline Ntiru

Senior Advisor, Africa at Convergence Finance

Mrs Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli (MFR)

Founder, LEAP Africa, Co-founder, AACE Foods, Director, Sahel Capital.

Mrs Clare Omatseye

Managing Director, J.N.C. International Nigeria Ltd.

Mrs Uche Pedro

Founder Bellanaija.

Mrs Adesola Sotande-Peters

CFO, Africa, USA & Middle East, Godrej Consumer Products Limited

Mr Sadiq Usman

Head of Strategy, Flour Mills Nigeria

Mr Femi Taiwo

Executive Director, LEAP Africa



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welcome to 2022- a year where we celebrate 20 years of raising leaders and serving youth! I am excited at the opportunity to serve at this very special time in the evolution and trajectory of LEAP Africa. We have indeed come a long way as an organization - gone through various seasons and phases, made mistakes and amendments, and accomplished a lot through the commitment and sacrifice of various people and partners (past and present). There is much more to BE and DO in the pursuit of our mission of raising leaders that will transform Africa.

Indeed, it's a L.E.A.P year - a year to celebrate and consolidate on our Legacy; a year to Engage extensively and give maximum exposure to our work and impact; a year of executing from Abundance; and a year of living and re-igniting the Purpose of our organization. What a year 2022 is...

This year presents a unique opportunity to celebrate and consolidate our legacy. In keeping with our legacy of leadership, effectiveness, accountability and professionalism, there is no better time to deepen the fabric of our internal legacy- our vision, mission, values and culture- are instruments that we must wield, imbibe and celebrate. More importantly, it means we continue to strive to live our R.I.S.E core values of Respect, Integrity, Synergy and Excellence in all our pursuits. What does legacy entail from an external point of view? It will mean: finding creative ways to give back to our ecosystem, alumni and stakeholders; celebrating the contributions of partners, Board and staff (present and past); communicating impact stories strategically; demonstrating thought leadership and potentially launching legacy products.

There is indeed no better time to light up our candle and seek to be on the highest mountain for all to see. As we strive to deliver our mandate we know that our dreams are possible because all resources (financial, human, material), relationships and partnerships are accessible and within reach. Similarly, our organization will make strategic investments to give world-class tools and other enablers that we need to deliver on our dreams.

2022 is a time of realignment and intentionality. It presents a unique opportunity to pause and reflect on our mission, vision, and strategy. It is also a time to birth other expressions of our purpose and strengthens the present positions. What an opportunity we have this year admist all the celebrations and convenings to onboard more partners and stakeholders to our cause.

Finally, even as we continually innovate and support youth across Africa, we will leverage all resources available within and outside the organisation. Work SMART, leverage technology and systems: pursue process optimisations and design systems to achieve efficiency.



It's a LEAP Year! Yes, LEAP Africa celebrated its 20th anniversary in May! Exactly TWO DECADES of inspiring, empowering and equipping young African leaders. 240 months of building the capacity of young social agents for social change. Over 1,042 weeks of equipping young social entrepreneurs with skills to manage and sustain organisational growth. 7,300 Days of providing young people with the skills and tools for personal, organisational and community transformation.

To celebrate this applaudable feat, LEAP Africa hosted a press briefing in February to officially announced its 20th Anniversary celebration with a line-up of specialized activities to commemorate two decades of youth leadership development in Nigeria. We also unveiled the 20th-anniversary overarching theme - LEAP Africa at 20: Celebrating Impact, Redefining the Future and the logo for the brand throughout the celebration year.

In May, a virtual celebratory webinar was held to commemorate our day of incorporation – 22nd May 2022. The celebratory webinar was one of the lined-up activities to commemorate two decades of youth leadership development in Africa. This virtual webinar brought together virtual and in-person board members, funders, supporters, alumni and constituents.

PHOTOS: 20TH ANNIVERSARY PRESS CONFERENCE AND WEBINAR













- 1. Kehinde Ayeni, Chief Operating Officer, LEAP Africa at the 20th anniversary Press Conference in Lagos
 2. MERL Manager, LEAP Africa Hope Olatunde, Executive Director, LEAP Africa Femi Taiwo, Chief Operating Officer, LEAP Africa Kehinde Ayeni at the Press Conference
 3. L-R: MERL Manager, LEAP Africa Hope Olatunde, Executive Director, LEAP Africa Femi Taiwo, Chief Operating Officer, LEAP Africa Kehinde Ayeni and LEAP Leadership Institute Manager - Ahmed Umar at the Press Conference
- 4. L-R: lyadunni Olubode Former ED, LEAP Africa; Femi Taiwo ED, LEAP Africa and Kehinde Ayeni COO LEAP Africa at the celebratory webinar physical venue in Lagos 5. Oluwasegun Oluwaleti - Director of Administration, LEAP Africa Alumni Network, Temitope Abel - HR Consultant KPMG; Michael Sunbola - Founder, Food Bank Initiative and Catherine Busari - Programme Coordinator, LEAP Africa at the Alumni panel during the celebratory webinar physical venue in Lagos.
- 6. Temitope Abel HR Consultant KPMG; Michael Sunbola Founder, Food Bank Initiative and Oluwasegun Oluwaleti; at the Alumni panel during the celebratory webinar physical venue in Lagos.



THE LAST 20 YEARS







9,600 CHANGEMAKERS





IMPACTED

10,000,000+

DIRECT & INDIRECT BENEFICIARIES

LEAP AFRICA
Through the years





As part of the activities to mark our 20th anniversary of Impacting Africa, we held a Private Stakeholders Engagement and Cocktail in June 2022, at the Netherlands Embassy in Lagos, Nigeria.

The event was organised to reflect on the success of LEAP Africa over the last 20 years, recenter the vision and aspirations, and secure support towards scaling its programmes and building the LEAP Leadership Institute (LLI). The Stakeholder event brought together High Net worth Individuals, representatives of top corporate organisations, Embassies, Consulates and High Commissions and representatives of top development organisations as well as our Alumni Network in Nigeria.

At the event, LEAP Africa's Board Chair and Managing Director of SO&U, Mr Udeme Ufot (MFR), expressed his delight at being on the LEAP Africa Board since 2006 as a member and Chair of the Board for two consecutive

tenures. He thanked partners and sponsors for their continued support of the organisation. He also implored everyone to partner with LEAP Africa to build an evidence-based centre of excellence relevant to activating and scaling youth leadership development on the African continent.

Delivering the opening remark at the event, Mr Michel Deelen, Consul-General Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, pledged the support of the Kingdom of Netherlands through its Embassy in Nigeria and applauded the tremendous impact LEAP Africa has had on the youth ecosystem in Africa.





















Building Sustainable Businesses and Social Enterprises for the Continent: The 2021/2022 Social Innovators Programme (SIP) Sustainability Workshop

At the core of the work, we do at LEAP Africa is the Social Innovators Programme, our platform for enabling young social entrepreneurs and innovators with the requisite skills and tools for building sustainable enterprises.

At SIPA 2021, we welcomed the second West and East African Cohort of young budding entrepreneurs and social innovators. These Fellows comprise young Africans who bypass structural limitations and social barriers to bring innovative solutions to the most urgent challenges in their various communities in the region. Out of hundreds of applications, these changemakers were drawn from Burundi, Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda with innovative solutions across different sectors like Energy, Justice, Healthcare, Agriculture, Technology, Recycling, and Education.

Over the past 6 months, they have been nurtured on some requisite skills and empowered with relevant resources,

tools and skills, and mentorship to scale their enterprise sustainably. First off with the Social Innovators Programme (SIP) Enterprise Sustainability Workshop (blended) which was held from 21st February to 26th February 2022 in Lagos, Nigeria.

With 13 seasoned and experienced Faculty Members, four mock pitch judges, and over 40 hours of immersive training and learning, the fellows had so much to learn to transform their social enterprise in a 6-day immersive, blended workshop. The Enterprise Sustainability workshop is the first step in a year-long transformative journey for the newly inducted 2021/22 SIP Fellows.

SIP Faculty Members



MR. UDEME UFOT Head, Strategic Brand Management, Union Bank



FEMI TAIWO Executive Director, LEAP Africa



LOLA ESAN Partner, Workforce Advisory Services



OJONUGWA ICHABA Senior Associate, Templars



ADEPEJU JAIYEOBA Lawyer and Social Enterpreneur



AKIN AKOWONJO Senior Programs Manager FATE Foundation



HOPE OBASEYI MERL Manager, LEAP Africa



GBENGA SESAN Executive Director, Paradigm Initiative



SEGUN ABODUNRIN CEO, Tdx.Agency



Executive Director, FATE Foundation



ANU ADELAKUN Director of Video Production, The Cable



FUNMI SOEWU Investor, MAGIC Fund



OLUSIJI AINA Partner and West Africa Director, Impact Amplifier



2021/2022 SIP Fellows



Ajibade Oluwatobiloba (Nigeria)Priceless Virtues



Chukwu Daniel (Nigeria) Oracleous Enterprise Limited



Nijimbere Thierry (Burundi) Action for Green Planet



Ola Idris (Nigeria) The Blue-Pink Center for Women's Health



Falaiye Titilayo (Nigeria) Orange Strategy Recyclers



Akorfa Dawson (Ghana) NadèLi



Eliya William (Tanzania) Shuleyetu



Ode Evelyn (Nigeria) Emerald-Isle Foundation



Bwanika Charles (Uganda) Farm Kiosk



Lasisi Adejoke (Nigeria) Planet 3R



Charles Falajiki (Nigeria) DigiLearns



Oloh Kelvin (Nigeria) Replast Engineering



Mawejje Muhammed (Uganda) Mawejje Creations



Ogechi Nwonye (Nigeria) Green Axis



Christy Onu (Nigeria) NatalPro



Benn Yewande (Nigeria) PregAfrica



Osamede Obayuwana (Nigeria) The Farmer's Sons (TFS)



Olukokun Tolulope (Nigeria) Thinbikes Limited



Atuase Uche (Nigeria) Anieze International Limited -Clean Nigeria; Use the Toilet Project



Kihumuro Wilbur (Uganda) Health Shore International



Adeniyi Oluwasegun (Nigeria) Teamcoby-Nigeria



Masereka Godfrey Kikumbwa (Uganda) Agency for Rural and Urban Development (ARUD)



Ogechi Nwonye (Nigeria) Green Axis



Uwase Aline (Rwanda) The HappyNes



Mustapha Amina (Nigeria) Chezo Global Enterprises

For more information about the Social Innovators Programme and Awards (SIPA), please visit https://leapafrica.org/social-innovators-programme/

For Sponsorship and Partnership, please write to Osarume via oakenzua@leapafrica.org



The power and relevancy of short films for advocacy purposes in the modern world cannot be overemphasized.

In March 2022, we launched the SCALE Countering Trafficking In Persons (CTIP) short film competition to raise awareness and understanding of Trafficking In Persons in Nigeria; to tease out the various pain points and issues around Trafficking in Persons (CTIP); leverage the power of media to advocate, inspire and motivate people for deep conversations/dialogue and impact cultural roots causing Trafficking in Persons (TIP) and strengthen the youth ecosystem, and create opportunities for young people to contribute (through short films) to Countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) in Nigeria.

This competition is a key component our work with Strengthening Civic and Accountability and Local

Engagement (SCALE), Palladium to raise greater awareness of Trafficking In Person (TIP) issues among youth, youth leaders and CSOs and build their capacity using the Positive Youth Development (PYD) Framework to ensure that prevention, response and protection of Trafficked persons is more effective.

Out of over 70 submitted entries, Andrea Adeola Peregrino, with the short film titled - Poached, emerged as the winner of the Short Film Competition. This announcement was made at the Premiere of the top 5 entries at Ebony Life Cinema in Lagos.







The winner went home with the grand prize of N1,200,000 (N1.2Million) plus other amazing prizes. The first and second runner-ups also won in cash - N750, 000 and N400,000, respectively.

Catch the thriller of the short films on LEAP Africa's YouTube platform: @LEAPImpact. For more information about the USAID SCALE Project, please write to Osarume via oakenzua@leapafrica.org.

The Rising Trend in Trafficking among Children and Youth: Causes and Solutions

by Terhemen Agabo

Human trafficking is a severe social challenge in Nigeria. More worrisome is that children and youths constitute the bulk of trafficked victims. A study on human trafficking revealed that the average age of registered trafficked victims is 27.

For Nigeria, 58% of trafficked victims are children. Children and youths are often recruited by traffickers and compelled into forced labour, most recently for rituals. Human trafficking has devasting effects on victims. These effects include physical and emotional trauma, which often leaves victims in deplorable states and needs rehabilitation. This article addresses the causes of human trafficking and the factors propelling the incidence of youths as victims of trafficking. The article also highlights some current interventions implemented by LEAP Africa to mitigate human trafficking in Nigeria, and relevant recommendations are brought forward.

Major Causes Of Human Trafficking Among Children And Youths

A root cause of human trafficking among youths in Nigeria is economic hardship characterised by the lack of employment opportunities and widespread poverty. According to the latest unemployment statistics, 40.8 % of youths aged 15-24 and 30.7% of 25-34 are unemployed.

Without employment, young people become desperate for survival. Thus, they fall into the ploys of traffickers who promise them a good life outside the country. Sadly, these desperate young people are recruited into exploitative ventures.

Another cause of youth trafficking is the lack of awareness of the activities of human traffickers in communities. Due to the lack of understanding of the guises employed by traffickers, potential victims cannot uncover persons involved in the recruitment of individuals for trafficking purposes. The major failure in the lack of such widespread awareness on trafficking is due to the narrow reach of sensitisation activities of National agencies in charge of countering trafficking. There is a lack of collaboration among the concerned agencies-those in charge of women and youth welfare- in designing public sensitisation activities across grassroots communities where trafficking happens. Another manifestation of the shallow reach of public awareness efforts on trafficking is the lack of harmony between national agencies in charge of anti-trafficking and Civil Societies that engage in antitrafficking activities. Such disharmony denies the country a more widely spread public awareness that should have resulted to a more effective partnership between government agencies and Civil Societies working to end trafficking.

Furthermore, the failure to implement anti-human trafficking and allied laws across some states has also contributed to the rate of trafficking in young persons. One such instance is the non-implementation of the Child Rights Act at the grassroots. The Child Rights Act prohibits child labour and exploitation and children's use for drug trafficking. Failure to implement this law could encourage trafficking activities, especially toward children in such areas. Broken Families also play a role in fuelling youth trafficking. Young people from broken homes are exposed to emotional imbalance and possible economic hardship when there is no parent to cater for them. Such circumstances put young people in danger of trafficking.

Poor integration of trafficked victims into society could also make victims go into trafficking. The re-integration of trafficked victims involves health, social and economic phases. When some or all these phases are not adequately implemented, the victims remain in the same difficulties that pushed them into trafficked. At this point, they will consider going back.

LEAP Africa's work towards Curbing Youth Trafficking LEAP Africa has made efforts toward curbing trafficking among youths in Nigeria. The organisation embarked on implementing the Strengthening Civic and Accountability and Local Engagement (SCALE)-Countering Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) project in September 2021. The project was initiated to tackle trafficking in Nigeria. The programme has trained over 50 representatives of Civil Society organisations working to reduce human trafficking. LEAP Africa has also contributed to efforts to reduce trafficking

by carrying out a policy gap analysis that identified loopholes in the design and enforcement of anti-trafficking laws across the state and national levels.

Recommendations

Checking the rate of youth trafficking in the country will require a lot of effort between the Government, Non-Governmental Organisations, and the private sector. On the part of the Government, National and state agencies responsible for tackling trafficking activities must put more efforts toward sensitisation and public awareness on the harmful effects of human trafficking. Also, such awareness should equip public members with knowledge that will enable them to identify potential trafficking incidents around them.

The Private sector should seek opportunities to engage young people through employability training economically vocational pieces of training, among others. These can be achieved through corporate social responsibility focused on the economic empowerment of youths. Unemployment is a major cause of youth trafficking. As such, should young people be economically engaged, they will no longer be vulnerable to trafficking.

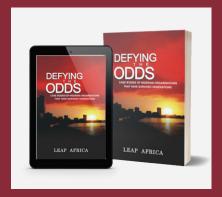
On the other hand, Civil Society Organisations play an essential role in tackling trafficking at the grassroots and beyond. Owing to the significant part of the CSOs, it is pertinent that they work more with government agencies to take public awareness campaigns to communities. CSOs can also engage opinion groups such as religious organisations and other community groups that influence young people significantly. Such engagements will lead to an awareness of the harmful effects of trafficking and expose the ploys of traffickers. Similarly, Social media can be used as an avenue to be sensitive to young persons on the detrimental impacts of trafficking, given that young people are social media savvy.

DEFYING THE ODDS

This book profiles seven remarkable organisations, tracing their business histories, spanning 1923 till 2005, and highlighting the fundamental prerequisites for effective succession and business sustainability. From nonprofit organisations to publicly traded institutions, from triumph to tragedy, these case studies highlight the fundamental prerequisites for effective succession and business sustainability in the Nigerian context.

ORDER NOW

visit https://leapafrica.org/leap-books/





More than 70 per cent of Nigeria's population comprises young people, with estimations of continuous growth in the next few decades. Given this significant number, it is evident that the future growth of Nigeria is linked to having an educated, skilled, healthy, and politically active youthful population that is involved in the development of long-term policy strategies.

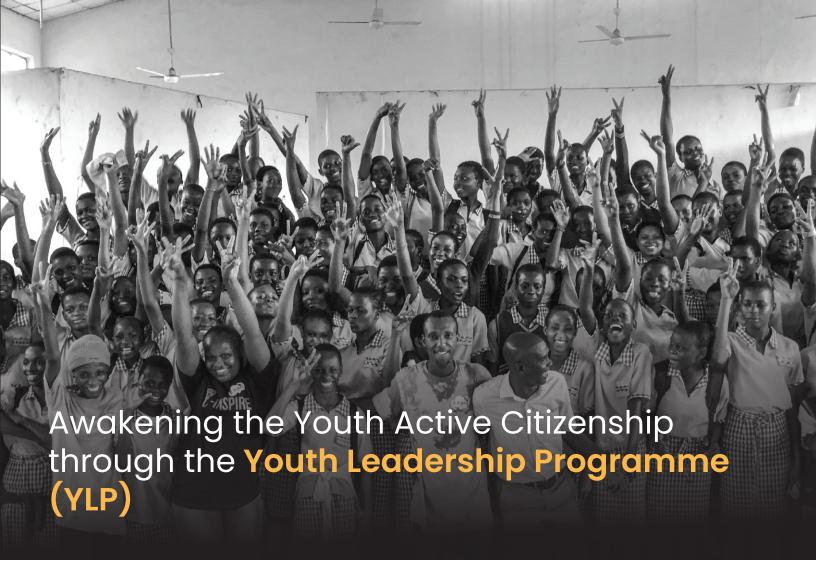
Under the thematic pillars of the Imaginative Futures Working Group; Young Leaders Development (YLD); Advocacy (Online and Media Engagement) #TheNigeriaWeWant Dialogue, LEAP Africa, in partnership with the MacArthur Foundation and Ford Foundation, established the Nigeria Youth Futures Fund (NYFF) to provide targeted capacity building, youth ecosystem building and financial support to burgeoning youth-led movements in Nigeria, in order to sustain their work locally and facilitate learning opportunities.

The \$5 million funds, seeded by the MacArthur Foundation and Ford Foundation was launched to build on the momentum in the region from the youth-led #ENDSARS movement. It will inspire, empower, and equip a new

cadre of leaders with skills for personal, organizational, and community transformation.

NYFF's mission is to strengthen, support and enable young people in Nigeria for youth leadership, activism and social change through outcome-driven policy engagements and inclusive resourcing that will support youth in shaping and supporting medium and long-term national development.

For more information about the Nigeria Youth Futures Fund (NYFF), please visit https://nigeriayouthfund.org/. For Partnership and Participation, please write to Opeyemi via ooriniowo@leapafrica.org



In January, LEAP Africa welcomed 3000 Nigerian undergraduates across the 36 states of the federation for the Youth Leadership Programme (YLP) 2021/2022 Cohort.

The Youth Leadership Programme (YLP) is a 4-month programme designed for Nigerian undergraduates across the 36 States to empower, equip and support young change leaders, who are at the forefront of providing effective and innovative social change solutions, with the skills, knowledge and support system required for them to build sustainable organizations.

For four weeks in February, over 1200 young undergraduates from across universities in Nigeria actively participated in the virtual learning courses for the Youth Leadership Programme. Each week, the YLP Learning Management System was updated with video instructions facilitated by young seasoned speakers. The pillars are hinged on the following thematic pillars: Leadership, Active Citizenship & Community/Sustainable Development.

At the end of the virtual thematic pillars, we held mentorship sessions on Implementing a Change Project, Influencing Change Through Policy & Advocacy, Social Innovation & Entrepreneurship, and Enabling Youth Transitions. Expert speakers, including our Founder Ndidi Okonkwo Nwuneli, Molade Adeniyi (WAVE Academies) and Amara Nwankpa (Shehu Musa Yar'Adua Foundation), led these sessions.









The 2021/2022 YLP Programme ended with Change Projects implementation; an important component of the Youth Leadership Programme (YLP). It provides an opportunity for programme participants to translate knowledge acquired in the instructional e-Learning sessions to plan and implement projects that solve critical problems in their communities. This is achieved through the collaborative efforts of the YLP Fellows in the same institutions/across similar locations as they work to identify problems within these communities.

In April, we received about 130 proposal submissions from Young undergraduates in Nigerian universities and

the top 50 teams have been screened to proceed to the implementation of their change projects. In the coming month, successful teams shortlisted for change projects will receive funding support for the implementation of community-based projects. We can't wait to share pictures from these projects across Nigeria.

For more information on the Youth Leadership Programme, You can visit www.leapafrica.org/ylp or write to Catherine via cbusari@leapafrica.org

YLP 2021/2022 Programme Stats

Application

3696 registered participants



3696 registered participants,

Selection

3000 enrolled participants who have interacted with 17 modules, 3 Live Review sessions, and 4 Mentorship Sessions.

3000 enrolled participants

17 modules

3 Live Review

4 Mentorship Session

Gender Distribution

61.7% Male, 38.3% Female



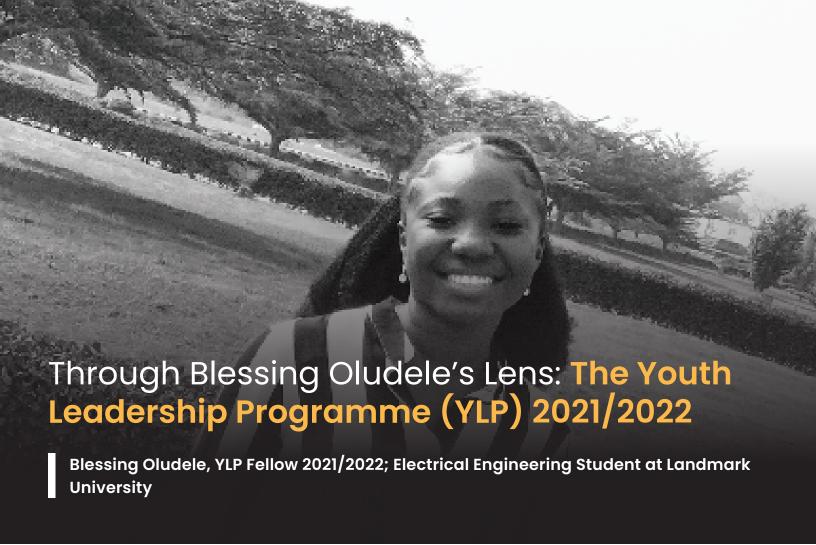
VCOP ENGAGEMENT

A Community of **1760** with **502** individuals actively engaging

CHANGE PROJECTS COMPETITION

126
Team Submissions
Received







We should all strive to change the things we can no longer accept in our world! - Ndidi Nwuneli

At this critical phase of Blessing's life, with all the changes, growth and major decisions facing her, she didn't need a prophet to tell her how important good guidance was. That was why when she came across the YLP programme, she was so grateful it was an easy application and quickly filled out the appropriate forms. Some weeks later, she got an email that she had been selected, along with an outline of what to expect from the programme with the appropriate time frames and some simple guidelines on the next steps. It was entirely virtual and the first phase involved taking 16 courses that had been divided into three categories (Leadership, Active citizenship and community/sustainable development), each lasting for a whole week.

The leadership pillar started off with a transformative leadership course, which really set the pace for Blessing;

clarifying excellently that leadership wasn't in any position and it could not be given to anyone, instead, it is something everyone can rise up to. The leadership pillar continued with visioning and goal setting, self-leadership, effective communication and ethics and social values modules.

At the end of the first week, she had already started to look at situations in her classroom in school differently. Blessing even heard one of her lecturer's comment that she was the most resilient in the class just because she wasn't slouching or asking for the class to end like her colleagues. They ended week one with a live review Zoom meeting where they all talked about the modules they had completed with a guest, it was a very insightful time.

By week two, Blessing was ready for more! She had drafted a timetable to combine my school work with watching the

modules and doing some extra study. Her alarms were all set, the leadership module even had her doing morning exercises she would never have agreed to prior to that. "I now wake up much earlier than my roommate and finish a good chunk of work before the day starts", says Blessing. Thanks to the time management skills she had been exposed to, they learnt that their time is a gift that should reflect their utmost priorities. The active citizen's pillar was really different. This module exposed Blessing to people who were really patriotic and the kind of attitudes that brought about real change. She most importantly learnt that any leader in a democratic setting, gets power from the people, they are in turn totally accountable to those people and that it takes a special mix of qualities in a citizen to have the leaders you chose actually work for you.

Blessing learnt about advocacy and public policies, how every advocacy, apart from the noise and jamboree,

The impact of this YLP program for me personally I believe has only started to bud and the full-blown effect will be something that continues to unfold even after some 10, 20 years.

must be based on facts and data, and how essential it is to engage with stakeholders using this data. She also learnt the right way to carry the masses along with any advocacy and the often-ignored fact that they must start out any advocacy with the end result in mind. Again, at the end of the week, Blessing was feeling pumped with all this information but what she is most grateful for about this module is that she could see the loopholes in an earlier work of advocacy she had done and knew how to strategize to get a better result in any future engagement. As always, the class had a Zoom review session with the wonderful Yemi Adamolekun, and Blessing saw that the result of any work of advocacy is allowed to vary, and even small changes sometimes have large effects on people

by listening to the practical work Yemi Adamolekun had

Entering week three, Blessing had already registered online for my permanent voters' card, hoping to collect it once she got home. The third pillar introduced the class to the SDGs, the history and the goals with some fun games in-between the videos. That week also opened Blessing up to so many Nigerians driving those goals even on a global scale. It taught her how to make a change starting from where she is with the ASAP acronym (Awareness, Service, Advocacy and Philanthropy) and it took Blessing deeper into the technicalities of implementing a sustainable project with so many frameworks and resources. It ended with a final course on upskilling for the future of work Blessing saw how to actually prepare for a career after school in a way that she had never seen before. She will be entering the job market proactively creating her own opportunities thanks to the course by Nchimunya Chipo Hamukoma.

The second phase of the program was live mentoring sessions with some of the choicest speakers available. With every new week, they were all inspired by the guests that had been invited. Each mentoring session left very different feelings and indelible lessons in all of their minds, some were more sobering, some were extremely practical while some were yet full of energy! The speakers were simply amazing. Blessing remembers when Mrs Ndidi Nwuneli, the founder of LEAP Africa had her session with them, from hearing her story, to her carefully selected examples, Blessing had some clarity on what she also should be working on. Blessing ended this article by borrowing Mrs. Ndidi Nwuneli's words that WE SHOULD ALL STRIVE TO CHANGE THE THINGS WE CAN NO LONGER ACCEPT IN OUR WORLD!

In conclusion, the impact of the YLP program for Blessing has only started to bud and the full-blown effect will be something that continues to unfold even after some 10, 20 years. If you are a young Nigerian, Blessing implores you to please look out for when the next cohort will begin and join the train of refocused, young African leaders!



The iLEAD Programme is designed to help young people develop life, leadership, employability and entrepreneurship skills.

Through the 2021/2022 iLEAD Programme, LEAP Africa is teaching life skills for personal success and giving over Four hundred and fifty students from five (5) select government secondary schools across five (5) Area Councils in Abuja this golden opportunity. They are; Army Day Secondary School, Asokoro, Government Day Secondary School, Karu, Government Secondary School, Karshi, Government Secondary School, Kuje, Government Day Secondary School, Gwagwalada. Funded by Citi foundation the iLEAD Programme Trained Fourteen (14) Teachers and Four(4) Fellows to help cascade these leadership modules to iLEAD students.

It was a rewarding moment to celebrate over 400 iLEAD students, 4 iLEAD fellows and 15 iLEAD teachers at 2021/2022 iLEAD Graduation and Pathways Day in Abuja. Riding on the theme – "Introducing the future of work", the graduation ceremony brought together stakeholders and beneficiaries from the 5 schools where the 2021/2022 iLEAD programme was implemented to identify different pathways /in-demand Jobs for the future of work. Students that participated in the iLEAD Programme are inspired and equipped with all the necessary skills to transition into higher learning, jobs and or become successful entrepreneurs, they are putting all they have been taught into practice and helping others do the same one person or ten at a Time.

For more information on the iLEAD programme in, You can visit https://leapafrica.org/ilead/

For Sponsorship and Partnership, please write to Osarume via oakenzua@leapafrica.org





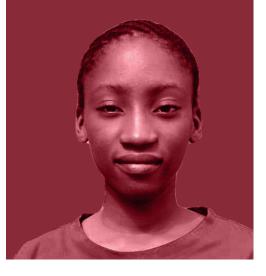


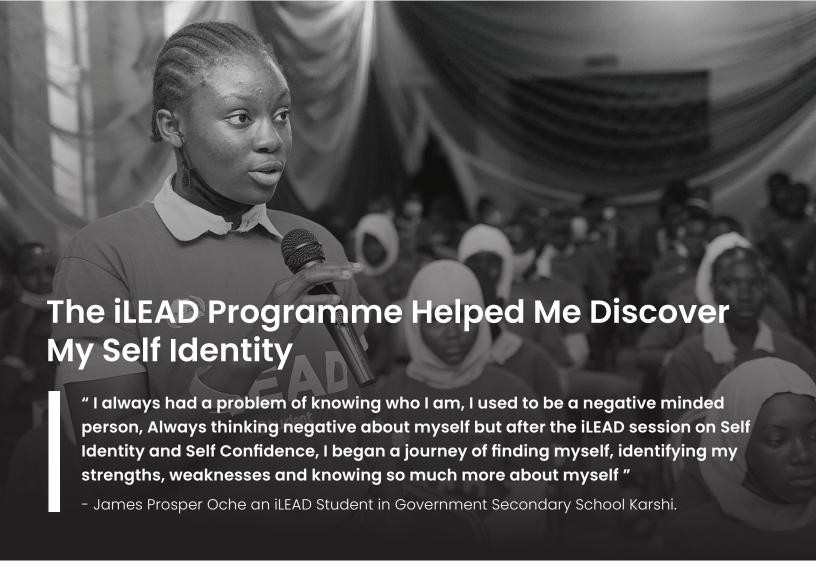




Itulu Prisca is an iLEAD Student Government Secondary School, Karshi. She expressed her gratitude to iLEAD for helping her become a better person. She had always viewed herself as someone who could not do anything good and her parents saw her as someone who could not face the world. She also did not see herself as a leader and believed leaders were born and not made; that leadership was about position. Since she did not have any position of authority, she assumed leadership was not for her.

The iLEAD Programme broadened her horizon and helped her build confidence in herself. She now has the confidence to do the things she was previously afraid to do. Her parents and friends are surprised about all the wonderful new changes in her and she could not be happier for being an iLEAD Student. She once again expressed gratitude to LEAP Africa for organizing a program such as iLEAD. She would like the programme to be extended to other schools so that other students that have the challenges she had can also benefit from iLEAD.

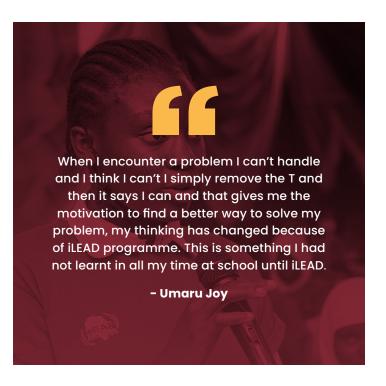




Through the iLEAD Session on Self Identity and Self Confidence students were educated on finding themselves, handling peer pressure, steps to building a healthy self Identity and building their self-confidence. Students were taught how to use counter-statements to build their self-confidence.

The iLEAD Curriculum includes several other modules that have had and are having great, meaningful and measurable impact on the participating iLEAD students and their friends, family and community. Students' testimonials on the other modules include;

The Art and Act of Leadership: Through the iLEAD session on the art and act of leadership, students learned qualities of leadership from notable Leaders across different spheres of Life. Ocholi Praise Ojone said "iLEAD has taught me that Leadership is action and not just a position, which tells me that I can be the change I want to see in my corner of the world without waiting for the big stage, and also that



Leaders are Made and not born".

Visioning and Goal Setting is another module that impacted iLEAD students and one of our students started setting goals intentionally and not just because other people did it after being exposed to this module. She now sets SMART goals and has a vision board guiding her to measure her goals to arrive at her set vision.

Becoming an Active Citizen is another important module and according to Paul Tarkunde, learning about Patriotism and patriotic citizens like Dr. Ameyo Adadevoh who helped prevent the spread of the Ebola Virus in Nigeria, he and his friends wanted to do something too and thanks to iLEAD for the idea of change project, they identified a problem in their school community and solved it by providing

outdoor metal benches for their school.

Creativity and Problem Solving: Ernest Judith Ngozi believed for so long that creativity was for musicians, artists or actors but with the iLEAD training, she realised that she can be creative in the way she solves problems.

Ernest Judith Ngozi also spoke about the Time Management module and she stated that before iLEAD, she struggled to complete tasks and even failed at some because she could not manage her time as well as she should. Now, she said she can win a championship for her time management skills. She makes a to-do list, tackles the tasks according to priorities and aims to achieve every task on her list with enough time to do other things not captured in her to-do list, like hanging out with her friends.

Ajaga Esther, another iLEAD student of Government Secondary School Karshi shared how being an iLEAD student has helped build her confidence and has enabled her have faith in herself and her abilities. Esther used to be very shy and avoided speaking in public. She joined the school choir in an attempt to cure herself of her lack of confidence but she was still afraid to sing in front of people.

After the iLEAD session on Self Identity and Self Confidence, Esther learnt how to put away her fears and believe in herself. The iLEAD module enabled her to see herself not as she currently was but as she wanted to be; a great person. Esther started setting SMART goals and following through with them to attain her vision for her life. The introduction of vision boards gave her the opportunity to create a clear view of what she wanted her future to look like. She now has her vision board on the wall in her room so whenever she opens her eyes, shes sees what she is fighting for. This helps build her confidence when she is fearful and motivates her to follow through with her set goals, no matter what.

During the change project phase as iLEAD students, Esther's cohort noticed that when parents came on visiting days, they usually were not able to spend time with their children because there was no sitiing area for them. They came up with the idea of providing metal benches and placing them under trees in their school garden. They wanted parents to have a sitting area when they came to visit their children and wards so they can spend quality time with them. Parents are not the only ones benefiting from the change project, students now sit on the metal benches as well, during outdoor activities, to relax and read and are always



singing the praises of iLEAD students. Their school garden is now referred to as "iLEAD Garden". Another area of Esther's life touched by the iLEAD programme is her time management. Before the iLEAD programme, Esther had challenges managing her time. Now, she is able to track what consumes her time using the methods provided in the student manual to plan and organize her daily activities. In addition, the Art and Act of Leadership module made Esther understand that everyone is a leader, leadership is not by appointment or title, and leaders are made, not born.

Finally, Esther expressed her special gratitude to LEAP Africa, Citi Foundation, the wonderful iLEAD teachers and iLEAD fellows for championing this great initiative and giving her and 444 students across schools in the FCT, the golden opportunity to participate in the programme and changing her life and their lives forever. Salute!



Young people in Africa face significant barriers which limit their successful transitions in 5 key areas, namely, Education, Employment, Healthcare, Social Mobility, and Active Citizenship.

The interconnectedness of these transition challenges requires an enabling environment tailored to provide holistic and evidence-based solutions to bridge the existing learning gaps between young people and their enablers while leveraging digital disruption in learning to equip and scale youth leadership development interventions to drive Africa's growth development -This is the bane of the LEAP Leadership Institute.

The LEAP Leadership Institute (LLI) is the centre of excellence for evidence-based knowledge and resources relevant to activating and scaling youth leadership development on the African continent. Through the diverse programmes, innovations and research outputs from LLI, LEAP Africa aims to develop an ecosystem of thoughtful and transformative leaders who would be the advocates for the urgent and ambitious change Africa needs.

LLI's overall objective is encapsulated in its mission to

become a Premier resource centre providing world-class courses, training, resources, and holistic and evidence-based solutions required to bridge the existing learning gaps between young people and their enablers while leveraging digital disruption in learning to equip and scale youth leadership development interventions to drive Africa's growth development.

In the first half of the year 2022, LLI launched its inaugural virtual course on Positive Youth Development for Executive Leaders, Programme Managers/Coordinators, Fundraising and Partnerships Managers, Grant Administrators and Managers.

For more information about the LEAP Leadership Institute (LLI), please visit https://leapinstitute.africa/
For Sponsorship and Partnership, please write to Ahmed via aumar@leapafrica.org



As the dictum goes, everything begins and ends with leadership, hence, the development of any nation is hinged on the quality and effectiveness of its leaders. African history is besotted by events that gives a similitude of a continent only capable of raising poor leaders interested in private gains at the expense of the masses. While there is indeed a leadership challenge in Africa, its framing calls for deep questioning as it might in fact be a major part of the problem.

From the 60's when most African countries began their struggles for independence, conversations of who and what its leadership will look like emerged. There were concerns about how a region so diverse can be managed effectively to harness its potential. In the wake of these conversations, leaders in their youthful prime rose to the challenge in a gargantuan attempt to lead their countries towards peace and prosperity. Notable amongst them were Julius Nyerere (Tanzania), Félix Houphouët-Boigny (Côte d'Ivoire), Ahmed Sékou Touré (Guinea), Modibo Keita (Mali), Chief Obafemi Awolowo (Nigeria), Kwame Nkrumah (Ghana), and Mau Mauof Jomo Kenyatta (Kenya).

The transition from colonialism to independence was marked by crises, exploitation and several forms of discrimination and exclusion. Post-independence governance was not very different as coups, counter coups, civil wars, unrest led critical pundits to opine that perhaps Africa was never ready for its independence. While this view appears rather critical, it may be useful to juxtapose Africa's position and transition with other regions that have similar historical antecedents. In this regard, it may be interesting to explore the history of Europe and the Americas to understand the nature and context of the leadership challenges they faced. This exploration will be useful in understanding why Africa is framed as a region that is incapable of managing its own affairs. If leadership challenges are universal and contextually problematic, why is Africa projected as the worst-case scenario? This argument does not negate the reality of these challenges; however, it attempts to argue that perhaps the framing and outlook may need to be revised to effectively tackle the challenge.

Africa's Leadership Challenge

Many argue that Africa's first crop of leaders failed largely because they were unprepared for the realities of post-independence. Most of the leaders were activists and educated elites whose focus was ending the dark days of colonialism in the continent. Hence, their first attempt at uniting the continent was divisive and founded on conflicting ideologies (non-align movement, leftist Monrovia group and the right-wing Casablanca bloc). However, they instituted Pan-Africanism which has remained an important part of their legacy.

The 21st century presents a new challenge for Africa to square up to the realities of the times by positioning itself as a power to be reckoned with. This call is for Africa's voice to be heard and projected, to promote peace and prosperity across her borders and to create a just and equitable society for all. Nevertheless, if this must be achieved, its leaders will champion this journey to greatness.

Strides to Greatness: The Rise of a Crippled Giant

Africa's development is hinged on the cultivation of leaders with exceptional character and skills. The recognition that leadership skills are not groomed when a position is conferred must be acknowledged, and so efforts must be geared at raising capable talents for political and socio-economic leadership. There is an urgent call for leadership heralded by young people whose potential have been under-utilized over time. Africa is experiencing a youth bulge, 70% of its population is under the age of 30, representing about 743 million of over IBillion people in the continent. 375 million young people in Africa will reach working age by 2030 —a population equivalent to the

combined populations of Canada and the United States.

This demographic bulge presents the continent with an enormous opportunity to harness the potential of its youth in the actualization of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa's own Agenda 2063. It also has weighty implications for economic development, public service provision, security and stability. Young leaders must be groomed as policy actors and co-drivers of transformative change in Africa. In truth, no useful effort at of development in Africa can be devoid of young people. Hence the continent is faced with a new challenge of raising young talents who are equipped to lead Africa's strides to greatness.

Leadership development for young people in Africa deserves spotlight attention as the current reports position youth as drivers of development. Although outliers exist in few pockets across the continent, young people historically have been excluded from developmental efforts resulting in the current socio-economic crises. Sustainable development requires inclusive collective action driven towards common good hence, interventions and efforts must be tailored to strengthen the capacity of young people to lead themselves, lead others and lead change. Participation and adequate representation of youth in policy dialogues must become an advocacy focus as they must be included to feel included.

The future is here, and Africa more than ever is in dire need of excellent and competent leaders who are not driven by lust for personal aggrandizement. The transformation of Africa is hinged on our ability to raise and equip young people to reach their highest potential while harnessing same to foster sustainable development.



After 3 years of the successful implementation of the Transformative Leadership Program (TLP) in Ghana, Malawi, Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, we successfully closedout in all countries, most prominently in the first half of 2022 in Eithopia and Kenya.

These visits facilitated engagement with stakeholders, Teacher Mentors and Scholars (on the Mastercard Foundation Scholars Program) to evaluate the impact of the Transformative Leadership Program (TLP) on the beneficiaries. It also provided an opportunity to celebrate the Teacher Mentors who have been equipped with the knowledge, confidence and skills required to model leadership and effectively support the leadership development of the students at the secondary level.

The Transformative Leadership Program is designed to equip teachers administrators with the knowledge, confidence and skills required to model leadership and effectively support the leadership development of the students at the secondary level.

The programme objectives include to inspire, empower

and equip Teachers and School Administrators with the skills required to be transformative Leaders'; support their scholars to develop values-based leadership skills, lead transformation in their communities and achieve their highest potential; foster a community that connects Teachers and School Administrators where they can engage, share experiences, successes and challenges to encourage continuous learning and collaboration towards personal & professional development and success.

In all, 764 enrolled teachers into a 3-year programme; 860 teachers provided with training toolkits; 16329 students reached who are Scholars in the Mastercard Programme

For more information about the Transformative Leadership Program, please visit https://leapafrica.org/tlp/ or write to Joy via jamanabo@leapafrica.org



Through the Praxislab flagship Nonprofit Accelerator, entrepreneurs are guided to become deeply formed as leaders who guide their nonprofit organizations to be more effective in leveraging philanthropic capital, and more redemptive in their impact. In May 2022, LEAP Africa's Femi Taiwo and Kehinde Ayeni were at the Praxislab Redemptive Imagination Summit and Showcase.

This mentorship-driven, non-residential Accelerator programme equips high-capacity founders as they innovate in their respective sectors. Each Accelerator event is customized to the needs of the Fellows and the expertise of the mentors.

During and beyond their participation in the Nonprofit Accelerator, Praxis will provide support for the impact of new ventures by equipping entrepreneurs in Values-Aligned Capital, Expert Mentoring, Transformative Content to apply the paradigm-shifting ideas, commitments, practices,

and experiences of redemptive entrepreneurship, Spiritual Formation and Talent Network.

With every component of the Accelerator content—whether it's about leadership, strategy, or execution—best practices are applied, share personal experiences, and push the redemptive edge of the topic through the Redemptive Nonprofit Playbook and the Praxis Rule of Life for Redemptive Entrepreneurs.



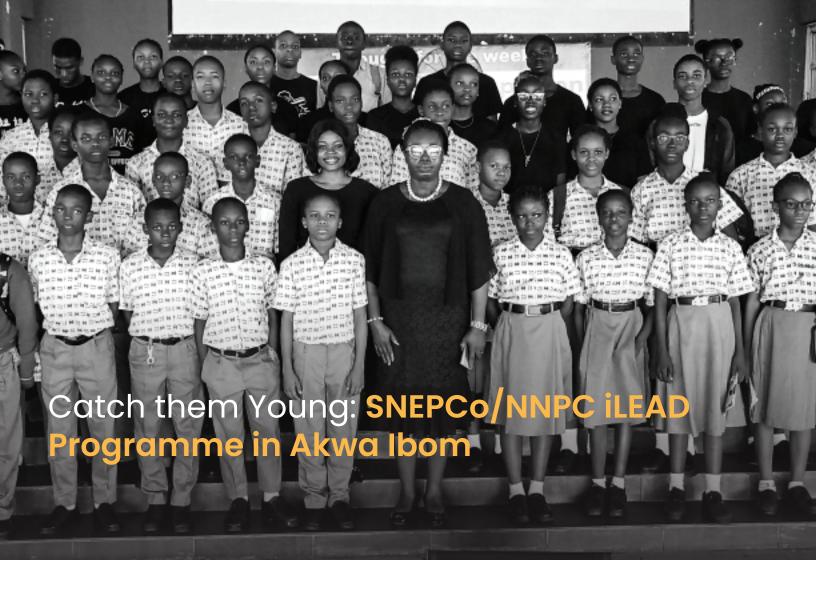
At the core of our work at LEAP Africa is the leadership development provided to teenagers through the LEAD the Way Programme. In April, the first batch of the 2022 Cohorts of the programme participated in virtual leadership programme. With the self-paced virtual learning courses, exciting virtual mentorship workshops, and

In the first half of the year, Over 20 teenagers from different private seconday schools enrolled for the virtual LEAD the Way Programme. With the self-paced virtual learning courses, exciting virtual mentorship workshops, and live review sessions, they were exposed to practical lessons to help them navigate life challenges.

The peak of this programme for the April/May Cohort was the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) training for the teenagers. In collaboration with our Partner - Atunlo Recycling, these young change agents visited Atunlo in Bariga area of Lagos, Nigeria. They were sensitized on the importance of proper plastic waste disposal, the impact of plastic waste on the environment, the environmental

and economic benefits of recycling, and the opportunities available with recycling, upcycling and a healthy/green environment.It is evident that through this Programme, teenagers go through a learning experience that ignites their social consciousness and strengthens their desire to give back to their communities.

Want to catch them young as change-agents and transformational leaders? Kindly visit www.leapafrica. org/ltw-online to enrol your teenager(s). For Sponsorship, Participation and Partnership or more information about the LEAD the Way Programme, please write to Ebuka via eukunna@leapafrica.org



In line with our commitment to Making Secondary Education Work, LEAP Africa, with the support of NNPC/SNEPCo, implemented the iLEAD Scholars Program in Akwa Ibom State, South-South Nigeria. This program is designed to help develop life, leadership, employability, and entrepreneurship skills of SNEPCO Scholars in secondary and tertiary institutions.

From January to June, several activities from Trainers of the Leadership Trainers (NNPC/SNEPCo Scholars), to the Scholars' meeting with their mentees (Students of Top Faith School) to curriculum delivery to frequent checkins meetings for live mentorship. The climax of this programme was the change project implementation.

These young change agents examined the rapid increase in rape cases especially among children and adolescents and the naivety amongst children in public spaces. With

this in mind, they organised a public awareness seminar to highlight the negative effects of child abuse, enlighten parents and children on the imminent dangers of child abuse and potential ways to address and report cases of child abuse.

To learn more about the NNPC/SNEPCo iLEAD Programme, please write to Haruna via hgodiya@leapafrica.org

New Board Members on Board

In March 2022, we announced the appointment of six new members to its Board of Directors. Coming from diverse backgrounds and sectors, the new board members, Larry Ettah, Tola Adeyemi, Sadiq Usman, Joe Abah, Waziri Adio and Abas Idaresit, bring years of experience and leadership to the work that LEAP Africa does across the continent.



Larry E. Ettah is the Executive Chairman of Barracuda Capital Partners Limited, (an Investment firm) he founded in 2018 after his retirement as the Group Managing Director (GMD)/Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of UAC of Nigeria Plc (UACN). Ettah holds degrees from the University of Benin, University of Michigan, Stanford University, Harvard Business School and University of Oxford. Before his retirement, Etta chaired the Board of UAC Property Development Company Plc (UPDC), Chemical & Allied Products Plc (CAP), Portland Paints & Products Nigeria Plc, among others. Mr Ettah currently serves on the Advisory Board of Chi Limited.



Tola Adeyemi is a Partner and Head of Audit Services at KPMG Professional Services. He is a member of the Firm's executive committee. He has served various companies across various industry sectors, including Power & Utilities, Oil & Gas, Telecommunications, Consumer/Industrial Markets, Public Sector, Financial Services and Development Agencies. Tola has over three decades of extensive experience in providing Audit and related Advisory Services, Process Reviews, Due Diligence Reviews, Sox Implementation, working as Reporting Accountant and IFRS Conversion Services. Tola has worked in the UK, South Africa and Nigeria and is a regular speaker on contemporary accounting and governance.



Sadiq Usman is the Head, Corporate Business Development, Flour Mills of Nigeria Plc. He has also served as a Special Assistant to the Governor, Central Bank of Nigeria, as a Vice-President with JPMorgan Plc, and an analyst with JPMorgan Plc. and Zenith Bank Plc. Before this role, Sadiq worked with the previous Governor of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) as an adviser on Economic Development. He is also a Non-Executive Director of NNFM Plc.



Joe Abah is the Country Director for Nigeria, DAI, Nigeria where he provides technical and strategic inputs to DAI's existing portfolio of projects, in addition to supporting business development initiatives. He has gained extensive experience in the governance sector, working on public sector reform programs for the U.K. Prime Minister's Office. In 2013, Joe took a post with the Government of Nigeria as Head of the Bureau for Public Sector Reform. He holds a PhD in Maastricht University, The Netherlands; and other degrees from London Guildhall, University, London and University of Calabar, Nigeria.



Waziri Adio is a renowned Journalist and Policy Strategist. He is the Lead consultant on Public Communication, Policy and Public Strategic Management and serves as the Chief Strategy Officer of Think-Tank Consult. He was the editor and columnist at This Day Newspapers and Director of Communications at Nigeria Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative, NEITI. Waziri earned degrees from the University of Lagos, Columbia University and Harvard University. He is a Fellow of the Nieman Foundation for Journalism and an Edward S. Mason Fellow in Public Policy and Management at Harvard University.



Abasiama Idaresit is a technology entrepreneur and founder and CEO of Wild Fusion Limited - a digital marketing agency with offices in Nigeria, Ghana, and Kenya. Idaresit started his business with \$250 seed funding and built it into a multi-million company across three African countries. He has worked to empower enterprises and enable African startups to succeed using technology like Baby M. He was listed among the top 100 African economic leaders of the future in 2015 by Choiseul Institute.

Appreciation

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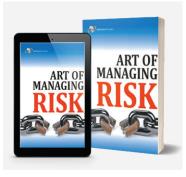


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LIVE LEAD LEAD

In order to better prepare young Africans for the future, **LEAP Africa** is reevaluating interventions and growing programs. Our objectives through the organisation's online learning platform:

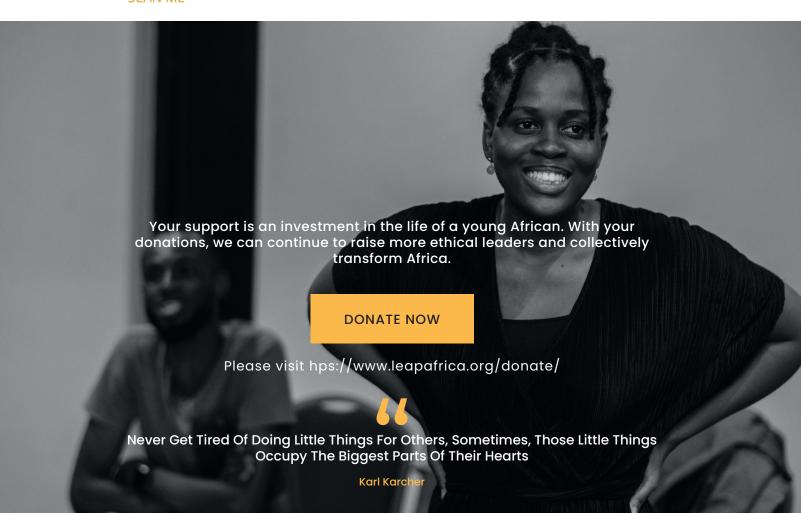
- Learners can study at their own pace, making it easier to understand and better grasp the material.
- Provide resources to selected youth to implement innovative community-based social change initiatives aligned with the SDGs.
- Create an ecosystem for youth to engage in peer learning, network, share resources, and collaborate by creating a virtual community of practice and mentorship platform.

Why wait any longer to begin learning?
Visit https://learn.leapafrica.org or scan the QR code below to get started.



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Address:

13, Omorinre Johnson Street, Off Admiralty Way, Lekki Phase 1, Lagos, Nigeria. Enquiries

Cover: LEAP Africa | Graphics: LEAP Africa
Contact Us: www.leapafrica.org | info@leapafrica.org

